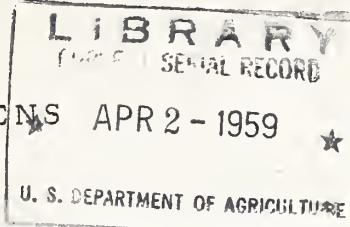


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TURKEY BREEDER HENS APR 2-1959
JANUARY 1, 1959



February 13, 1959

MORE TURKEY BREEDER HENS

Breeder hens on farms January 1, 1959 totaled 3,659,000, compared with 3,410,000 a year earlier--an increase of 7 percent. Heavy breed turkey breeder hens were estimated at 3,057,000 compared with 2,960,000 the previous year--an increase of 3 percent. Light breeds were estimated at 602,000 compared with 450,000 a year earlier--an increase of 34 percent. Testings for pullorum disease July through December were up 2 percent for heavy breeds and 65 percent for light breeds from the same period a year earlier. Testings of heavy white breed turkeys were up 49 percent and accounted for 22 percent of all heavies tested July through December.

In October, flock owners in 15 of the most important States indicated their intentions to keep 7 percent more heavy breed hens and 38 percent more light breed hens. This compares with the 3 percent more heavy breed hens and 34 percent more light breed hens on hand January 1, 1959. Growers as of January 1 indicated they intend to raise 5 percent more turkeys during 1959 than they raised during 1958. Their intentions were to raise 3 percent more heavy turkeys and 16 percent more light turkeys than were produced during 1958. The number of breeder hens on hand January 1 appear adequate to meet the intentions shown by growers for a larger turkey crop than was produced in 1958.

Numbers of heavy breed hens on January 1 this year were above last year in all regions except the South Atlantic and the West. Increases were 17 percent in the West North Central, 12 percent in the South Central, 9 percent in the East North Central, and 1 percent in the North Atlantic States. Decreases amounted to 7 percent in both the South Atlantic region and in the West. The 10 leading States, with 74 percent of the heavy breed hens in the country, ranking in the order named, are California, Minnesota, Texas, Oregon, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, Virginia, and Michigan.

More light breed hens were on farms on January 1 this year than a year earlier in all regions except the North Atlantic region where numbers were down 20 percent. Increases were 61 percent in the South Central States, 39 percent in the East North Central States, 35 percent in the West, 27 percent in the South Atlantic, and 26 percent in the West North Central States. The nine leading States, with 86 percent of the light breeder hens, are Virginia, Ohio, Minnesota, Texas, California, Oregon, West Virginia, Missouri, and Arkansas.

TURKEYS: BREEDER HENS ON FARMS JANUARY 1

State and Division	Heavy breeds			Light breeds		
	1958	1959	Percent of 1958	1958	1959	Percent of 1958
	Thousands	Thousands	Percent	Thousands	Thousands	Percent
Maine	5	7	140	1	---	---
N.H.	10	10	100	1	1	100
Vt.	6	5	83	---	---	---
Mass.	19	18	95	---	---	---
R.I.	1	1	100	---	---	---
Conn.	14	16	114	1	---	---
N.Y.	39	40	103	1	1	100
N.J.	7	9	129	1	1	100
Pa.	51	47	92	5	5	100
N.Atl.	152	153	101	10	8	80
Ohio	116	105	91	55	82	149
Ind.	23	27	117	1	2	200
Ill.	26	27	104	3	3	100
Mich.	60	73	122	4	3	75
Wis.	66	85	129	4	3	75
E.N.Cent.	291	317	109	67	93	139
Minn.	280	380	136	65	80	123
Iowa	134	148	110	6	14	233
Mo.	140	124	89	18	18	100
N.Dak.	21	22	105	---	---	---
S.Dak.	8	11	138	1	2	200
Nebr.	34	38	112	1	1	100
Kans.	29	32	110	3	3	100
W.N.Cent.	646	755	117	94	118	126
Del.	3	3	100	---	---	---
Md.	11	12	109	1	1	100
Va.	90	83	92	138	179	130
W.Va.	9	9	100	18	21	117
N.C.	49	47	96	2	1	50
S.C.	59	54	92	4	3	75
Ga.	23	21	91	---	---	---
Fla.	17	15	88	4	7	175
S.Atl.	261	244	93	167	212	127
Ky.	48	45	94	1	1	100
Tenn.	16	12	75	1	1	100
Ala.	16	13	81	7	4	57
Miss.	29	32	110	4	5	125
Ark.	47	46	98	17	17	100
La.	19	14	74	2	1	50
Okla.	47	46	98	13	14	108
Texas	235	306	130	30	78	260
S.Cent.	457	514	112	75	121	161
Mont.	3	3	100	---	---	---
Idaho	4	4	100	---	2	---
Wyo.	1	1	100	---	---	---
Colo.	8	8	100	---	---	---
N.Mex.	4	4	100	---	---	---
Ariz.	6	6	100	---	---	---
Utah	40	39	98	3	2	67
Nev.	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wash.	54	63	117	3	3	100
Oreg.	206	185	90	16	21	131
Calif.	827	761	92	15	22	147
West.	1,153	1,074	93	37	50	135
U. S.	2,960	3,057	103	450	602	134